

July 30th 1946

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AFFIDAVIT SWORN BY SHIRAO, TATEKI, of TOKYO-TO, SUGINAMI-KU, NISHI TAKAIDO, 1 CHOME, 139.

I am SHIRAO, Tateki, at present employed at the Ministry of Communications in Tokyo and I live at: Tokyo-to, Suginami-ku, Nishi Takaido, 1 Chome 139.

In November 1941 I was in charge of the department of Censorship which is a section of the Ministry of Communications.

On November 29th 1941, my friend Lt. Colonel TOMURA Morio, who was then employed in the communications section of the Chief of Staff, telephoned me at my private house in the evening and told me that for security reasons all foreign telegrams were to be delayed in delivery by five hours. I at once telephoned to the central telegraph office, and gave orders that all in-coming and out-going telegrams should be delayed for five hours. This applied to all telegrams except those of the Japanese Government and, I think, those concerning the German and Italian Governments. At the time I did nothing more in the matter.

On December 4th, having discussed the matter with members of the Ministry, I issued written instructions to all branch telegraph offices in the Tokyo area and to all other sections of my censorship staff. I do not think it likely that any copy of these written instructions still exists. At no time, so far as I remember, did I ever receive written confirmation of the telephone instructions of Colonel TOMURA.

On December 6th my orders from Colonel TOMURA as to the delay in telegrams was varied and, in future, I was told to delay the delivery by five hours and ten hours on alternate days.

On December 7th I knew, certainly before 6.00 p. m. when I left the office, and I think some time between four and six p. m. of the contents of the message of the President of the U. S. A. to the Emperor of Japan. I cannot remember, for certain, who told me, but I think it was Colonel TOMURA who gave me this information in the course of a conversation on the telephone that afternoon. He telephoned me to say that henceforth all telegrams were to be delayed by fifteen hours and I gave instructions to my subordinates accordingly.

It was the custom at this time for the Foreign Office and for the Chiefs of Staff of the Army and of the Navy to send a messenger to my department at least once a day, generally in the morning, to take away copies of telegrams in code which they thought might interest them. As December 7th was a day of great excitement, there were probably messengers in and out all day, and I cannot say at what time the President's telegram would have been taken away by any of these messengers. I do know, however, as I have already explained, that

Colonel TOMURA of the War Ministry was telling me the contents of the telegram probably by 4 o'clock and certainly by 6 o'clock that evening.

I should explain that, although my department is called the department of Censorship, and was therefore responsible for decoding telegrams in code, it was operating for public and commercial codes only and did not handle secret codes.

On December 8th I was called on the telephone about 4.30 a. m. by Mr. NAKAYAMA, who was Chief of the Foreign Telegram Section of the Telecommunication Bureau of the Ministry of Communications and, as such, my immediate superior officer. He told me that he had received an order from the Army to stop all communication with Foreign Countries. I immediately telephoned the order to my office, dressed and went there, arriving about 6.0 a. m. There I found Colonel MURAKAMI of the War Ministry, and Lt. Colonel TOMURA, waiting for me, and we discussed all future control of communications.

At noon on this day, the Minister of Communications read out to the Staff of the Ministry the Imperial Rescript of the declaration of war.

I am certain of many of my times and all my dates in this period as I kept a Diary, and it is after refreshing my memory from this Diary that I have made the present Affidavit.

I, SHIRAO, Tateki have read the above statement in English, a language which I understand. I swear on my conscience that the contents of the above statement are true to the best of my knowledge and recollection of facts.

T. Shirao

Sworn and subscribed to before
the undersigned by the above
named SHIRAO, Tateki at the War
Ministry Building, Tokyo, this
18th day of August 1946

/s/ John F. Hummel
Major, J. A. G. O.

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一九四二年昭和十七年七月三十一日
東京都板桥区西高井戸一丁目二三九番地
白尾千成氏、宣誓に供す
私、現在東京、逓信省ニ勤務シテ居ル白
尾千成^{テアリマシ}ニ東京、東京都板桥区西高井
戸一丁目二三九番地ニ住シテ居^{リマシ}マス。
一九四二年昭和十七年十一月私、逓信省
一部^{テアル}検閲室ニ監督シテ居^{リマシ}タ。
一九四二年昭和十七年十一月二十九日ニ、頃
参謀本部通信課ニ勤^メテ居^{リマシ}タ友
人陸軍中佐戸村益雄加私、自定^ヘク
方電話ヲ掛^ケテ寄^{コシ}、警戒、爲外國
電報ハ總^ベテ五時間配達^ラ後^ニス事
ニ^{サツ}旨私ニ告^ゲマシタ。私、直^チニ
中央電信局ニ電話ヲ^{カケ}テ發送電報モ
到着電報モ皆五時間差^シタル様
命令シマシタ。
此、命令ハ日本政府、電報ト多分^ハ伴

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兩國政府ニ関スル電報ヲ除ク他ノ一切ノ電報ニ適用サシメシタ。

當時私ハ其ノ事ニ関シテハコレ以テ何モシマセシデシタ。

十二月四日ニ省内、官吏達ト此ノ事ヲ討議シテ後私ハ指令文ヲ東京地区、全電信支局ト私ハ檢閲本部、他、課全部ヘ配布シシタ。此ハ指令文、寫シテ今デハ残ラズ居ナト思ヒマス。私ハ記憶、及テ限リ戸村陸軍中佐、電話指令、確認狀ハ受取ラテ居リマセシ。

十二月六日電信遮断ニ関スル戸村中佐カラ、指令ハ一定セズ自將來ニ於テハ一日、交互ニ配達ヲ五時間ト十時間、ハス様ニト言ハシマシタ。

十二月七日ニ私ハ事務所ヲ出テ午後六時前デアツタ事ハ確カデアリマスガ何シロ午後四時カラ六時迄ノ間ニ私ハ「アリカ」合衆國大統領ヨリ天皇陛下ヘ送リシタ

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電報内容を知らマシタ。私ハハツキリト誰カ之
ヲ教ヘテクルタノカ思ヒ出ス事ハ出来マセシガ
ソノ日ノ午後、電話デノ会話ノ中デ此ノ事ニッ
イテ教ヘテクルタ、中村中佐デアツタと思ヒマス。
彼電報ハ今後全部十五時間遅ラセル様ニト電
話デ言ツテキマシタデ、ソノ旨自今、配下ニ命令シ
マシタ。

此ノ頃外務省並ニ参謀本部及軍令部ハ通
常ノ前中デアリマシタガ少クトモ一日ニ田ノ使ニ
私ノ旨ニ寄コシテ自今達ニトテ役立ツテアツト
思フ様ニ暗号電報、寫シテ持ツテ行クノガオキ
マシタアリマシタ。十三日ハ非常ニ種々ト興奮
シテ田ノ使ニシタデ一日中使ニノ者達ガ出タリ
タリシニ居タニ達ニアリマセシデト使ニガ大統領
ノ電報ヲ持ツテ行ツテアツタトイフ事ハ言ヘマセ
シ。然レ前ニモ申シマシタ通り陸軍省ノ中村
中佐ガ電報ノ内容を話シテクルマシタガ
ソノ時間ハ多分四時遅クトモタカ、六

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時前ト云フ事ハ確カニデス。

自分、居タ局ハ檢閲局ト言ハシ其、故ニ
暗号電文ヲ繼設スル事ヲ引受ケテ居リ
マシタガタゞ萬國共通暗号又ハ商業暗号
シカ繼設セズ秘密暗号ハ一切取ツテ
居リマセデシタ。

十二月八日私、所ヘ午前四時三十分頃中山氏
カラ電話ガカ、ツテ来マシタ。中山氏ハ總
信省電務局外國電信課長デアリマシタ
。デ此、名義デ私ニトツテ、直接、上官デ
アリマシタ。彼ハ外國ト、通信ヲ全部止セル
様ニト云フ指令ヲ陸軍カラ受ケ取ツタ。私ニ
言ニマシタ。私、直ニ自分、事務所ニ電話
デ此、命令ヲ傳ヘ洋服ヲ着ニ事務所ニ向
ケ出發シ、午前、四時頃着キマシタ。事務所ニ
ハ陸軍省、村上中佐ト戸村中佐ガ私、来ル
ヲ待ツテ居ラシマシタ。ソコデ私達ハ將來、
通信ニ関スル統制、全体ニ関シ討議致

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シマシタ。此、日、正午遞信大臣、省内職
員ニ宣戰、即詔勅ヲ奉讀致シマシタ。
日記ヲツケテ居リマシタ。デ此、頃ニ周スル
時間ハ殆ド又、日附ハ全部間違ヒアリマセ
ニ。又日記ヲ讀ミテ記憶ヲ新タニシタ後
ニ此、ニ供書ヲ作製シタ、デアリマス。
白尾干城ハ記、陳述書ヲ英語ニ讀ミ
且其、内容ヲ諒解シマシタ。私、知ル限リ
又事實ヲ思ヒ出シ得ル限リニ於テ上記ノ
陳述、内容ガ眞実ナル事ヲ良心ニ誓フ
ヲ申シエゲマス。

白尾干城

元西六年昭和三十年八月十八日不記署名
者ノ前ニ東京都陸軍省内ニ於テ前記
白尾干城ニヨツテ宣誓サレ署名サレ
マシタ。

法務課

陸軍少佐 ジョシエス ハンデル
(署名)

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